

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 01768 01 OF 02 051705Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01

AID-05 PC-01 /080 W

-----116716 051726Z /53

O R 051500Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7897

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 NOUAKCHOTT 1768

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINR, PGOV, MR

SUBJECT: CABINET CHANGES IN MAURITANIA

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIEDC SUMMARY: MAURITANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED MAJOR INTERNAL REORGANIZATION. THE PREVIOUS TWO-TIERED CABINET STRUCTURE IS ABOLISHED, AND THERE ARE NOW SEVEN MINISTERS OF STATE AND 10 ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES. ALL SEVEN MINISTERS OF STATE (MOS) FROM PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT REMAIN AS MINISTERS OF STATE, 12 FORMER MINISTERS ARE OUT, AND ONE NEW MINISTER HAS BEEN NAMED TO GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. OFFICE OF PRESIDENCY ISSUED DECREE LATE AFTERNOON AUGUST 4 WHICH ANNOUNCED MAJOR REORGANIZATION OF MAURITANIAN CABINET STRUCTURE. REDEFINED MINISTRIES OF STATE ARE AS FOLLOWS: (LIST REFLECTS NEW ORGANIZATIONAL TITLE, MOS NAME):

A. MOS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HAMDI OULD MOUKNASS.

B. MOS FOR ISLAMIC AFFAIRS AND PARTY SECRETARIAT,

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NOUAKC 01768 01 OF 02 051705Z

ABDALLAHI OULD BOYE.

C. MOS FOR EQUIPMENT (DE L'EQUIPMENT), AHMED OULD MOHAMED SALAH.

D. MOS FOR PLANNING AND MINES, SIDI OULD CHEIKH ABDALLAHI.

E. MOS FOR INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND TRANSPORT, MOHAMEDEN OULD BABAH.

F. MOS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT, ABDOULAYE BARO.

G. MOS FOR NATIONAL EDUCATION, AHMED OULD SIDI BABA.

2. TEN MINISTRIES ARE AS FOLLOWS (TITLE OF MINISTRY, MINISTERS  
NAME AND FORMER POSITION OF MINISTER):

A. MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS, SIDI AHMED OULD DYE  
(NO CHANGE)

B. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, CHEIKH SAAD BOUH KANE (FORMER MINISTER  
OF INTERIOR).

C. MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, COL. M'BARECK OULD BOUNA  
MOKHTAR (NO CHANGE).

D. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, MOUJTABA OULD MOHAMED VALL (FORMER  
MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TRANSPORT).

E. MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MERCHANT MARINE, ABDALLAHI OULD  
ISMAIL (NO CHANGE).

F. MINISTRY OF FINANCE, BA IBRAHIMA (NO CHANGE).

G. MINISTRY OF PRIMARY EDUCATION, DIOP MAMADOU AMADOU  
(FORMER MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION).

H. MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, DR. MOULAYE ABDEL  
MOUMINE (NO CHANGE) MINISTRY ABSORBS FORMER MINISTRY OF FAMILY  
AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS WHICH IS ABOLISHED).

I. MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND LABOR, SAKHO MAMADOU  
(NO CHANGE).

J. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, M. MOHAMED EL HAFED OULD  
ENAHOU (NEW APPOINTMENT -- SEE PARA. 6 BELOW).

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NOUAKC 01768 01 OF 02 051705Z

3. POSITIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING FORMER MINISTERS HAVE NOT BEEN  
ANNOUNCED (FORMER TITLES IN PARENS):

-BA MAMADOU ALASSANE (FORMER MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS)

-HAMDEN OULD TAH (FORMER MINISTER OF ISLAMIC AFFAIRS)

-MALOUM OULD BRAHAM (FORMER MINISTER FOR PARTY SECRETARIAT)

-DR. ABDALLAHI OULD BAH (FORMER MINISTER OF RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT)

-MOHAMED OULD AMAR (FORMER MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND  
CONSTRUCTION)

-HASNI OULD DIDI (FORMER MINISTER OF JUSTICE)

-ETHMANE SID-AHMED YESSA (FORMER MINISTER OF PRIMARY  
EDUCATION)

-MME. AISSATA KANE (FORMER MINISTER OF FAMILY AND SOCIAL  
AFFAIRS)

-ABDALLAHI OULD CHEIKH (FORMER MINISTER OF PLANNING,  
HANDICRAFTS AND TOURISM)

-ISHAQ OULD RAJEL (FORMER MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION  
AND MINES)

-CHEIKH MALAINE ROBERT (FORMER MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO/  
SECRETARY GENERAL UNION DES TRAVAILLEURS DE MAURITANIA-UTM)

-SIDI MOHAMED DIAGANA (FORMER MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY).

4. ALTHOUGH ALL SEVEN MOS REMAIN AS MOS, THE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OF TWO, AHMED OULD MOHAMED SALAH AND AHMED OULD SIDI BABA, APPRETNLY HAVE BEEN GREATLY REDUCED. FORMER MOS FO INTERNAL SOVEREIGNTY SALAH, NOW MOS FOR EQUIPMENT, HAS LOST KEY PORTFOLIOS OF THE MINISTRIES OF JUSTICE, NATIONAL DEFENSE, AND INTERIOR/AND HAS BEEN GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR WATER RESOURCES AND CONSTRUCTION. FORMER MOS FOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT BABA, NOW MOS FOR NATIONAL EDUCATION, HAS LOST THE PORTFOLIOS OF PRIMARY EDUCATION; HEALTH; FAMILY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS; AND PUBLIC SERVICE AND LABOR. THE OTHER FIVE MOS APPEAR TO HAVE BASICALLY RETAINED SAME FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES THEY HAD BEFORE GOVERNMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 NOUAKC 01768 01 OF 02 051705Z

CHANGE.

5. AUGUST 5 EDITION OF GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED NEWSPAPER "CHAAB" WHICH ANNOUNCED GOVERNMENT CHANGES CONTAINED AN EDITORIAL WHICH CHARACTERIZED REORGANIZATION AS NECESSARY TO MEET THE REQUIEMENTS OF EFFICIENCY AND AUSTERITY. EDITORIAL NOTED THAT:

--THE HEAVINESS (LA LOURDUE) OF OUR GOVERNMENT APPARATUS APPEARED TO BE VERY COSTLY. THE POLICY OF AUSTERITY, ILLUSTRATED SINCE THE PARTY CONGRESS OF 1963 BY THE RATHER MODEST LIFE STYLE OF OUR NATION AND ITS CHIEF, DEMANDED THE MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF NATIONAL RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND CALLED FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF ANYTHING WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS EXPENDITURES FOR THE SAKE OF PRESTIGE.

-- THIS AUSTERITY CAN ONLY BE REINFORCED UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH WE ARE LIVING, WHICH IMPOSES UPON US THE NECESSITY OF DEVOTING ALL OUR MEANS TO OUR DEFENSE AND OUR DEVELOPMENT, IN VIEW OF THE SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES (MENEES) OF ALGERIA AND HER MERCENARIES WHOSE OBJECTIVE IS TO MAKE OUR COUNTRY GIVE IN BY THE USE OF FORCE AFTER BOUMEDIENE FAILED IN BECHAR TO DO IT THROUGH BLACKMAIL AND THREATS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 01768 02 OF 02 051702Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01  
AID-05 PC-01 /080 W

-----116474 051726Z /53

O R 051600Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7898  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 NOUAKCHOTT 1768

THE TIME HAS COME TO ELIMINATE WASTE AND MOBILIZE OUR  
ENTIRE PEOPLE FOR THE STRUGGLE OF DESTINY WHICH WE WANT TO  
LEAD, NOT ONLY ON THE MILITARY FRONT, BUT ALSO ON THE  
ECONOMIC FRONT, BY ACCOMPLISHING ALL OUR PROJECTS, AND BY  
INCREASING OUR PRODUCTIVITY TEN-FOLD. FOR ACTIONS SUCH  
AS THESE, IT IS INDISPENSABLE THAT OUR ADMINISTRATION  
BE THE CATALYST OF NATIONAL ENERGIES.  
WITHOUT DOUBT, WE ARE FORTUNATE THAT OUR ADMINISTRATION  
IS STILL YOUNG AND THEREFORE MORE READY TO RE-ADAPT  
ITSELF ACCORDING TO THE OPTIONS FACING THE NATION. BUT  
IT IS THE MEN WHO DIRECT THIS ADMINISTRATION WHO MUST  
FULLY ASSUME THE DUTIES WHICH ARE ASSIGNED THEM. BECAUSE,  
AS PRESIDENT MOKTAR OULD DADDAH HAS OFTEN SAID 'THE  
BEST OF ORGANIZATIONS IS ONLY WORTH AS MUCH AS THE MEN  
WHO RUN IT.' TODAY, AS YESTERDAY, THIS TRUTH REMAINS.  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NOUAKC 01768 02 OF 02 051702Z

6. THE NEW GIRM MINISTER OF INFORMATION, M. MOHAMED EL HAFED  
OULD ENAHOU, IS A NEW COMER TO MINISTERIAL CIRCLES. BORN IN  
1950 IN R'KIZ, NORTHEAST OF ROSSO, HE STUDIED IN NOUAKCHOTT  
WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS "BACCALAUREAT" IN JULY 1972. AFTER  
EARNING A CERTIFICATE OF "LETTRES MODERNES" FROM THE NOUAKCHOTT  
ECOLE NORMALE SUPERIEURE IN 1974, HE TAUGHT FOR ONE YEAR. HIS  
POLITICAL CAREER BEGAN IN 1974 WHEN HE WAS MADE DIRECTOR OF

REGIONAL COORDINATION IN WHAT IS NOW KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION AND INFORMATION (INEEP). HE RAPIDLY ASSUMED GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THE POLITICAL PARTY STRUCTURE AND MOST RECENTLY, IN MAY 1977, BECAME POLITICAL COMMISSIONER AT INEEP. AS MINISTER HE RETAINS THE TITLE AND FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL COMMISSIONER OF INEEP. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN LOU: ENAHOU HAS RAPIDLY MOVED UP THE POLITICAL PARTY STRUCTURE UNDER TUTELAGE OF SENIOR PARTY OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY MME. OULD DADDAH, WIFE OF THE PRESIDENT. HE MOST RECENTLY REPRESENTED MAURITANIA AT A MAY 24-27 CONFERENCE IN BAKU, USSR AND HEADED A MAURITANIAN POLITICAL PARTY DELEGATION ON A JUNE 28-JULY 5 VISIT TO ROMANIA.

7. ALTHOUGH RUMORS ABOUND THAT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES WILL BE MADE WITHIN THE SECONDARY LEVELS OF THE GIRM BUREAUCRACY - INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE CHANGING OF MOST SECRETARY-GENERALS AND CHARGE DE MISSION - NO SUCH ANNOUNCEMENT OR CHANGES HAVE YET BEEN MADE. END LOU.

FARLEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, REORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 05-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NOUAKC01768  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770281-0625  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NOUAKCHOTT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770893/aaaadals.tel  
**Line Count:** 244  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** eff36f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1698593  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CABINET CHANGES IN MAURITANIA BEGIN UNCLASSIFIEDC SUMMARY: MAURITANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED MAJOR INTERNAL REORGANIZATION. THE PREVIOUS TWO-TI  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINR, PGOV, MR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/eff36f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009